LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE SECRETARIAT.

No. L. 4854—*San.* 33-25-3, *dated 6th January* 1926.

The following report of the Committee of 1925, on Malnad Improvement is hereby published for information.

By Order,
T. SINGARAVELU MUDALIAR,
For *Secretary to Government,*
Local and Legislative Departments.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF 1925 ON MALNAD IMPROVEMENT.

I.—PRELIMINARY.

Constitution personnel, etc., of Committee

1. This Committee was constituted in Government Order No. L. 1891-902—Sany. 50-24-13, dated the 8th September 1925, to consider the Report of an Economic Survey of the malnad, carried out by Mr. S. Kesava Iyengar, M.A., Professor, Nizam's College, Hyderabad, who had been appointed for the purpose in February last. The personnel of the Committee was modified in two Government Orders dated the 19th and 27th October 1925. As finally constituted the personnel of the Committee was as below :—

CHAIRMAN.

Mr. K. Chandy, Second Member of Council.

MEMBERS.

(1) Mr. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer, Revenue Commissioner.
(2) Mr. K. Matthan, Inspector-General of Education.
(3) Mr. P. G. D'Souza, Chief Secretary to Government.
(4) Mr. N. S. Subba Rao, Principal, Maharaja's College, Mysore.
(5) Mr. A. K. Syed Taj Peeran, Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga District.
(6) Mr. R. Nanasam Rao, Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District.
(7) Mr. G. B. Heblikar, Deputy Commissioner, Kadur District.
(8) Mr. N. S. Namjundaiya, President, District Board, Hassan District.
(9) Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Vice-President, District Board, Kadur District.
(10) Mr. C. Subba Rao, Vice-President, District Board, Shimoga District.
(11) Col. W. L. Crawford, Coffee Planter.
(12) Mr. Sylvester Pais, Coffee Planter.
(13) Mr. Bagamane Deva Gowda, Coffee Planter.
(14) Mr. A. Mahomed Hussein, Coffee Planter.

SECRETARY.

Mr. M. Venkatesa Iyengar, Under Secretary to Government.

Dr. Usman, Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner, Mr. R. Ranga Rao, Secretary, Legislative Council and Representative Assembly and Mr. K. H. Ramaiya, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, attended the meetings of the Committee on some days, on invitation and helped them in the discussion.

The Committee met on the 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th of November 1925 for deliberation and on 4th and 5th December 1925 for adopting the report.

Economic Survey Officer and his work.

2. In a comprehensive order issued in October 1924 Government reviewed the operations undertaken for the improvement of the malnad under the Malnad Improvement Scheme inaugurated in 1914, and laid down the general lines of the future policy of Government in this important matter. While expressing their views on various measures and suggestions in connection with the improvement of the malnad, they observed that the question of land mortgage credit required further investigation and promised that a survey would be undertaken with this object. It was in accordance with this order that the appointment of a Special Officer was made in February 1925, and the main object of the survey was the investigation of the need for a Land Mortgage Bank to relieve the indebtedness of the agricultural population in the malnad. The Special Officer carried out a survey of five villages in the Tirthahalli, Koppa and Manjarabad Taluks of the malnad, in detail and has submitted a report based on his investigations in these five villages and enquiries made in four other villages close to the frontier and in other places which he visited.

Previous history of Malnad Improvement work.

3. The malnad has long been the object of special concern to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja. It has been observed that the population of this tract of the country has shown a steady decrease census after census. This decrease first attracted